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Klondike Gold Miners



KLONDIKE GOLD MINERS

OF THE

Alaska-Yukon-Klondike Gold Syndicate....

CAPITAL, \$500,000.

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Hon. FRED EMERY BEANE, Pres.,
Ex-Mayor, Hallowell, Me.

Col. WM. J. MAYBURY, M.D., Treas.,
Surgeon General of Maine, Saco.

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Biddeford, Me.

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Editor and Publisher,
Portland, Me.

GEO. H. DAVIS, Sup't of Mining,
Holy Cross, Colorado.

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HON. FRED E. BEANE,
President,
Hallowell, Maine.

This little booklet is presented to the public with two objects in view ; one, which the reader must necessarily understand, is for advertising purposes and to better acquaint the general public with the plans of the Alaska-Yukon-Klondike Gold Syndicate, and also to give definite information concerning those who are to accompany our expedition into that far away and perpetually frozen region.

It is estimated, by very conservative authorities, that at least a hundred thousand men and women will go to the Yukon district from the United States and Canada upon the approach of Spring-time ; and that fully another hundred thousand will go there from Europe.

It is assumed that the reader is interested in the subject of mining, both quartz and placer, and that he is either a prospective investor or one who desires to go into that region. It is an old saying, familiar to all, that, "fortune seldom knocks at our door" and when she does we should throw it wide open and bid her "welcome."

Gold mining is, without doubt, the most fascinating of all mining, and so it is very natural when a discovery is made in any region, that there should be a rush in proportion to the importance of the discovery. There has never been in the history of the world, gold discoveries that were as rich as those of the Klondike region. California amazed the world ; she has had fifty years in which to establish a reputation ; Klondike has had less than one year, and that year has far surpassed the early years of the California discoveries. Carefully selected mining investments are sure to prove of great value and yield enormous returns.



COL. WILLIAM J. MAYBURY, M. D.,
Treasurer,
Saco, - Maine.

While it is true that mining operations have failed, so it is true in every other walk of life. Railroads have been constructed and failed, but one would not condemn rail-roading; banks have been established and failed, but we do not condemn banking: and so in all of our mercantile and manufacturing pursuits the same can be said; but when we consider that there are no metallic substances used to supply our wants but are the result of some mining enterprise, we then begin to appreciate the vastness of mining operations.

That the Yukon-Klondike district is rich beyond even the miser's dreams is no longer questioned. The only thing to be determined to-day is, will you, reader, acquire a portion of its wealth? Do you propose to obtain some of the golden harvest which now awaits the reapers? And if so, the question to determine is what mode of procedure is most likely to bring the greatest returns within a reasonable time for a small investment, and to that end we desire to call your attention to the plans of our Syndicate and the men who compose its expedition, which is about to depart for the Yukon country.

On the 14th day of July, 1897, the little steamer, *Excelsior*, arrived at San Francisco, having on board some forty miners, each of whom brought with him from the ice-bound interior of Alaska, a fortune in gold. From that day dates the Klondike Gold Stampede, which has far rivalled in extent the three great gold discoveries of the century: California in 1849, Australia in 1851, and South Africa in 1890. Already more than seven millions of dollars in glittering gold have been brought from that region, and it is estimated by government experts who have observed the "clean-up" that has not reached civilization,



C. E. JEFFREY,
Vice President and Agent,
Biddeford, Maine.

that fully seventy millions of dollars in dust and nuggets will be brought down during the next season. When millions of gold can be taken out in a single year under the most disadvantageous conditions, with a climate extremely severe and the operators working with the most primitive instruments known to the miner's art, it is difficult indeed to conceive the fabulous amounts that must be yielded up when capital, experience and modern equipments are applied.

During the month of September last, the Alaska-Yukon-Klondike Gold Syndicate was incorporated under the laws of the State of Maine with an authorized capital of five hundred thousand dollars. The Syndicate is authorized by its liberal charter privileges, granted by the State of Maine, to buy, sell, purchase and hold mineral, personal and real estate, to operate mines and mining properties as well as to prospect for and locate them, and to carry on any other business that may be necessary for the successful carrying out of the plans of the organization.

It will send, during the month of March of next year, an expedition of about twenty-five men into the Yukon-Klondike region. These men will be thoroughly equipped to take the greatest possible advantage of every condition that may be found; they will not go in as employees but each is within himself a partner of the Syndicate. Each man is required by contract to hold or represent at least one thousand shares, fully paid for at its par value, of the capital stock of the Syndicate in order to become a member of the expedition. He receives no salary for his services, which he contracts to give for eighteen months in prospecting, locating and acquiring mineral claims in Alaska and the northwest territory of British North America,



WILLIAM H. JEFFREY,
Secretary,
Portland, Maine.

but when he locates a claim, forty-nine per cent. of its product belongs to him, and fifty-one per cent. to the stock of the corporation, that is, it is divided *pro rata* among all who have contributed to the expense of the expedition, so that each member is interested directly and financially in every claim that each of the entire expedition shall locate; so that when one member of the expedition shall make a discovery, he will be anxious to have the information conveyed to the members of his own party first, so that as many claims as possible may be staked by his associates before any outside party shall learn of the discovery. In this manner each member of the expedition has twenty-four men beside himself, all co-operating and working to secure claims for him, and when one member discovers pay gravel or quartz veins every other member of the expedition and every stockholder, whether there or at home, receives his proportion or part of fifty-one per cent. of the claims discovered.

A fair Klondike claim is worth one hundred thousand dollars. The Rothschild's Syndicate has offered to pay one million and two hundred thousand dollars for any ten consecutive Klondike claims on either Bonanza, Eldorado or Hunker Creeks, or one hundred thousand dollars each. Now it is the purpose of this Syndicate to sell fifty thousand shares of the stock, one-half of which is taken by the members of the expedition who go into the field, the other half to be subscribed for those who do not wish to stand the rigors of the Alaskan winter and who at the same time desire to share in the immense profits that must be derived from an expedition composed of men who not only put in their money, but a year and a half of their time, receiving

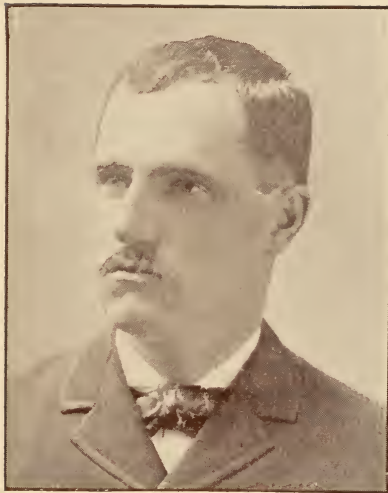


GEO. H. DAVIS,
Superintendent of Mining,
Holy Cross, Colorado.
[Mr. Davis in the Mining District.]

no compensation other than food, clothing and shelter, unless they succeed in locating claims.

All subscriptions are to back these men who have each a thousand dollars of money and a year and a half of time at stake, and with twenty-five men of this class working for you, your investment is bound to yield a hundred fold. We have no hesitancy in saying, and we believe that it cannot be contradicted, that there is no enterprise that will go into Alaska in the coming spring so well equipped and with so many elements of success as will our organization. Remember that every man who accompanies the expedition has placed a thousand dollars in the stock of the Syndicate; remember that he gives a year and a half of his time and his money to help make your investment pay; remember that each man is carefully picked with regard to his moral, social, intellectual and physical qualifications; remember that if one fair Klondike claim is staked by any one of the entire party, you will receive a dividend of about one hundred per cent. the first year, and if more is found, your dividends will increase in proportion. Nearly all the stock that we propose to offer at this time has been subscribed; only a small amount remains, which is being rapidly taken by those who appreciate the possibilities of such an undertaking.

It might not be amiss to call your attention to the officers of the Syndicate and their standing, and also to the men who will compose the expedition. We present to the reader, portraits of our officers and members of our expedition, such as have sent their photographs to this office up to the time of going to press. Others who are now under contract will appear in a later edition.



FRANK W. HOWARD,
 Dover, Maine,
 Formerly a Grain Merchant of
 Big Timber, Montana.

First, we present a splendid likeness of our President, Hon. Fred E. Beane, Ex-Mayor of Hallowell, the present Secretary of the Democratic State Committee and also the present Supreme Representative of K. of P. of the world.

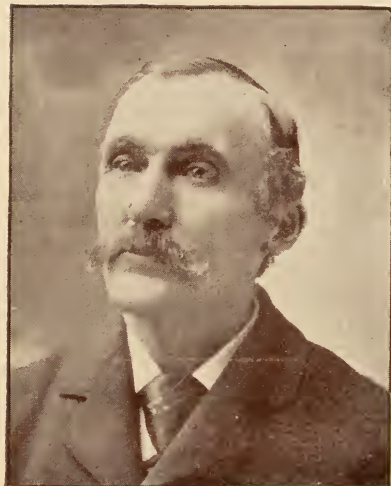
Next, we present a portrait of our Vice-President, Mr. C. E. Jeffrey, of Biddeford, who is too well known in the western section of our State to need any introduction. Mr. Jeffrey has been a successful General Insurance Agent for many years, and at present has charge of the business of one of Maine's largest companies.

We next present the portrait of our Treasurer, Col. Wm. J. Maybury, M. D., Surgeon General of Maine on the staff of His Excellency, Governor Powers. Col. Maybury is also too well known to require commendation.

The next is a portrait of William H. Jeffrey, the Secretary, who has for several years been identified with the press of Maine.

The next portrait is that of our Superintendent of Mining, Mr. Geo. H. Davis, late of the Holy Cross Mines, Colorado. Mr. Davis, as a miner and expert, has but few equals and no superiors in this country, and the fact of the mining feature of our enterprise being under the direction of one of so large an experience and of whose ability and energy there is no question, is certainly a guarantee that nothing will be left undone that would tend to make our operations more successful. Mr. Davis will accompany and have charge of the advance party that will precede the main expedition by about one month.

The remaining portraits are of men who are well known in their respective towns. Each is strong, able bodied, intelligent and hardy, with determination, pluck and perseverance and bound to succeed in their determination to ac-



ALFRED D. COTTLE,
Farmer,
Belgrade, Maine.
An experienced gold miner.

quire wealth. To do so they must make their investment and yours worth a hundred times its par value.

We should be pleased to have any who are interested in this enterprise to investigate into the standing of the Syndicate and its officers, or make inquiry as to the standing, socially, financially or physically, of any member of the expedition that is to go into Alaska.

As soon as the expedition arrives at Dawson City, the men will divide up into small prospecting parties and scatter over a vast area of country seeking for gold, maintaining a general headquarters where some twenty-five tons of food, clothing and implements necessary to carry on their work, will be stored. Weekly reports will be sent back to headquarters so that the entire party will know all the time just where each is located and be prepared, at a moment's notice, to start for rich strikes made by any of their associates anywhere in that vast and fabulously rich country.

Extract from Lecture on the Klondike Mining District

BY

WILLIAM OGILVIE, F. R. G. S.,
SURVEYOR TO THE DOMINION OF CANADA,

DELIVERED AT VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, NOVEMBER 5TH, 1897.

Hon. Col. Baker, Minister of Mines, occupied the chair. Col. Baker referred to Mr. Ogilvie's great services as an explorer in the North during the past ten years, for which he had received the medal of the Royal Geograph-



CHESTER W. DOTEN,
Merchant,
Woodford's Corner, Deering, Maine.

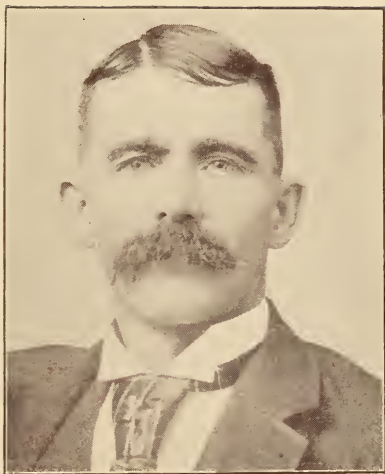
ical Society and had been made a Fellow of that celebrated body.

Mr. Ogilvie then came forward, and, after the noise of the hand-clapping had subsided, said in part:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:—After the flattering introduction given me by the Chairman and your very hearty reception, I feel called upon to make a few preliminary remarks in explanation of my position. My hands are tied officially and I am not able to disclose certain things until a certain blue-book is published at Ottawa, which I hope will be early next year.

I will first introduce you to the Dyea route, which has been used by the Indians for generations. And it is evident that they knew their business in selecting it. The word “Dyea” is itself an Indian one, meaning “pack” or “load”—a very appropriate name for the trail. From tide water to the mouth of the canyon it would be as easy to build a road as well as can be imagined, as easy almost as to construct one along one of your city streets. From the mouth of the canyon to Sheep Camp, construction is more difficult; in fact, it would probably be necessary to suspend the road by iron girders from the sides of cliffs. From Sheep Camp to the head of the climb is yet more difficult, as all who have gone over the road will heartily agree.

It is very steep and very, very stony. From the summit to Lake Lindeman there is a decline of one thousand three hundred and twenty feet, and the road has been somewhat improved of late. Lake Lindeman itself, the first lake, is about four and a half miles long and between Lake Lindeman and Lake LeBarge there is a sandy ridge three-quar-



FRED A. JACKSON,
Farmer,
East Winthrop, Maine.

ters of a mile long which brings us to the end of the present Dyea route.

EARLY GOLD DISCOVERIES.

Next let me tell you something about the history of the discovery of gold in the Yukon. In 1872, September 2, two North of Ireland men, from County Antrim, named Harper and F. W. Hart, left Manson Creek to go on a prospecting trip down the Mackenzie River.

The result of Harper's prospecting he gave to me as follows: On the Nelson, nothing; on the Liard, colours; on the Mackenzie, nothing; on the Peel, fair prospects; on the Bell, nothing; on the Porcupine, colours; and prospects everywhere on the Yukon.

Provisions giving out, they had to make their way down the river to St. Michael's. On his way back Harper saw an Innian with some gold he said came from the Kovukuk.

Inquiry elicited from the Indian the place where he found the gold and Harper prospected there all winter but found nothing. It is now known where the Indian got the gold, which was not at the place he indicated. During the summer, McQuesten made his way up the Yukon and built Fort Reliance, about six and a half miles below the mouth of the now famous Klondike.

In the following summer, Harper joined him there, and they trained in partnership at that post for many years. The valley at the Klondike was their favorite hunting ground, but they never prospected there, and if they had, in the Klondike itself they would have found nothing, for it is a swift mountain stream which has washed away all



LOUIS B. CARON,
Millman,
Gorham, N. H.,
Formerly of
Cambridge Junction, Vermont.

the fine gold and gravel, consequently the gold would sink out of sight, and in those days no prospecting was done but on the bars in the rivers and creeks.

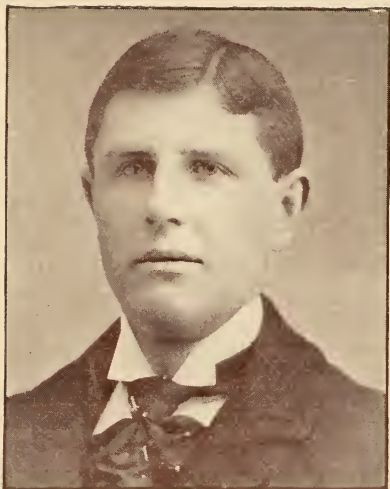
In 1882, gold was found on the Stewart River by two brothers, by name Boswell, from the vicinity of Peterboro. A number of Cassiar miners had discovered the river from Lake Le Barge, and had done considerable prospecting, finding fine gold. On the Stewart, the bars yielded fine gold in small quantity. In 1886, Mr. Harper established a trading post, and in the same year some prospectors found coarse gold at Forty-Mile.

This took all the miners up to the Forty-Mile, coarse gold being what every miner is looking for, and the excitement there continued to draw them until 1891, when gold was found on Birch Creek, two hundred miles below Forty-Mile. This, of course, boomed Birch Creek, and in 1891, everyone at Forty-Mile went down there. One or two creeks are rich.

Gold was found on the head of Forty-Mile. Napoleon Gulch, named after the Frenchman who located it, is rich in nuggets. Franklin Gulch is pretty rich, as are also Davis, Mosquito and Chicken Creeks. The last named, discovered in 1896, was considered very rich at the time, this being a few weeks before the discovery of the gold in Eldorado and Bonanza. For some time there was a doubt as to whether some of the creeks upon which gold had been found were in Alaskan territory and in 1886, I was sent in by the authorities to mark the boundary line.

THE FIRST OF KLONDIKE.

The discovery of the gold on the Klondike was made by three men, Robert Henderson, Frank Swanson, and an-



HARRY A. NEVENS,
Clerk,
Deering, Maine.

other one named Munson. In July, 1896, they took out from a little nook a pan which encouraged them to try further. In a few moments more they had taken out twelve dollars and seventy-five cents.

In August, 1896, the leader, generally known as Siwash George, because he lived with the Indians, went down to Forty-Mile to get provisions. He met several miners on his way and told them of his find, showing the twelve dollars and seventy-five cents which he had put in an old Winchester cartridge. They would not believe him, his reputation for truth being somewhat below par. The miners said he was the greatest liar this side of — a great many places.

They came to me finally and asked me my opinion, and I pointed out to them that there was no question about his having the twelve dollars and seventy-five cents in gold; the only question was, therefore, where he had got it. Then followed the excitement. One man who went up was so drunk that he did not wake up to realization that he was being taken by boat until a third of the journey had been accomplished, and he owns one of the very best claims on the Klondike to-day. (Laughter.)

Boulder, Adams and other gulches were prospected, and gave good surface showings, gold being found in the gravel in the creeks. Good surface prospects may be taken as an indication of the existence of very fair rock-bed. It was in December that the character of the diggings was established. Twenty-one above discovery on Bonanza was the one which first proved the value of the district. The owner of this claim was in the habit of cleaning up a couple of tubfuls every night, and paying his workmen at the rate of a dollar and a half an hour. Claim No. 5, Eldorado, was the next notable one, and here the pan of one hundred



VIRGIL C. JACKSON,
Farmer,
East Winthrop, Maine.

and twelve dollars was taken out. That was great. There was then a pan of even greater amount on No. 6, and they continued to run up every day. The news went down to Circle City, which emptied itself at once and came up to Dawson.

MANY HUNDRED MILLIONS.

Bonanza and Eldorado Creeks afford between them two hundred and seven-eight claims; the several affluences will yield as many more, and all of these claims are good. I have no hesitation in saying that about a hundred of those on Bonanza will yield upwards of thirty millions of dollars. Claim 30 below, on Eldorado, will yield a million in itself, and ten others will yield from a hundred thousand dollars up. These two creeks will, I am quite confident, turn out from sixty millions to seventy-five millions of dollars, and I can safely say that there is no other region in the world of the same extent that has afforded in the same length of time so many home stakes — fortunes enabling the owners to go home and enjoy the remainder of their days.

On Bear Creek, about seven or eight miles above that, good claims have been found, and on Gold Bottom, Hunker, Last Chance, and Cripple Creeks. On Gold Bottom, as high as fifteen dollars to the pan has been taken, and on Hunker Creek the same.

On Stewart and Pelley rivers some prospecting has been done and gold found, and on the Hootalinqua, in 1895, good pay was discovered, and the richness of the gold increases as work is continued further down. Some men, working fifteen feet down, found coarse gold, when the water drove them out, and they had to abandon the work and come out



FRANK J. CARON,
Millman,
Gorham, N. H.,
Formerly of
Brownington, Vermont.

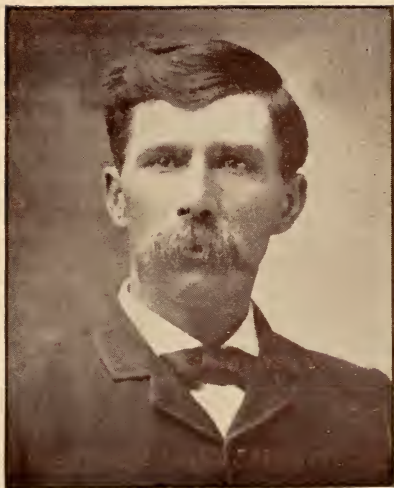
determined to return; but they did not go back, as in the meantime the Klondike excitement knocked that place out.

Gold has been found at the head of Lake Le Barge, on the stream flowing into the lake at this point. In fact, there is gold everywhere in this zone, which is five hundred miles long by one hundred and fifty wide. Prospects are to be found on the Dalton Trail, on the other side of the Yukon river. A man riding along the Altsek Trail was thrown from his horse, and, in falling, caught at the branch of a tree. As he drew himself up, he saw something shining on the rock, which fixed his attention at once. He picked it up and found that it was gold.

A fact that I am now going to state to you, and one that is easily demonstrated, is that from Telegraph Creek northward to the boundary line, we have in the Dominion and in this Province an area of from five hundred and fifty to six hundred miles in length, and from one hundred to one hundred and fifty miles in width, over the whole of which rich prospects have been found. We must have from ninety thousand to one hundred thousand square miles, which, with proper care, judicious handling, and better facilities for the transportation of food and utensils, will be the largest, as it is the richest gold field the world has ever known.

MOUNTAIN OF GOLD ORE.

In regard to quartz claims, seven have already been located in the vicinity of Forty-Mile and Dawson, and there is also a mountain of gold-bearing ore in the neighborhood. About forty miles up the river, two large claims have been located by an expert miner hailing from the United States,



THOMAS E. JACKSON,
Meat Dealer and Farmer,
Manchester, Maine.

and who has had considerable experience in Montana and other mineral States, and he assured me that the extent of the lode is such that these two claims are greater than any proposition in the world. On Bear Creek a quartz claim was located last winter, and I drew up the papers for the owner. He had to swear that he had found gold; he swore that he did, and he told me the amount, which, if true, will make it one of the most valuable properties that exists in the country.

On Gold Bottom another claim has been located, and I made a test of the ore. I had no sieve, and had to employ a hand mortar, which you who know anything of the work will understand would not give best results. The poorest result obtained was, however, one hundred dollars to the ton, while the richest was one thousand dollars. About thirty miles up the Klondike another claim was located, and the man swore that it was rich, although he wouldn't say how rich. That mother lode is yet to be found in the ridges between the creeks, and when it is found it may be found to consist of several large lodes, or a succession of small ones.

THE UPS AND DOWNS.

In one clean-up, eighty pounds avoirdupois of gold was taken out, or a total value of about sixteen thousand dollars. When you consider that the securing of this amount took the united labors of six men for three months, you can understand that there is considerable cost connected with the operation.

One man who owns a claim on Eldorado and one on Bonanza, has sold out, it is said, for a million dollars. He



MRS. ELLA A. JACKSON,
(Wife of Thomas E. Jackson)
Manchester, Maine,
The only Maine woman to go
to the Klondike this Spring.

went into the country a poor man with the intention of raising sufficient money to pay off the mortgage on his place. He has, I believe, not only done so, but paid off those of all his neighbors.

Mr. Ogilvie gave valuable details of observations of temperature, and concerning the limited possibilities of the Yukon for gardening, and also told some interesting stories of game hunting.

Mr. Ogilvie concluded, "We have there a vast region comprising from ninety thousand to one hundred thousand square miles of untold possibilities. Rich deposits we know to exist, and all may be as rich. We know now that there is sufficient to supply a population of a hundred thousand people, and I look forward to seeing that number of people in that country within the next ten years."

A FAITHFUL PUBLIC SERVANT.

Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., moved "a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Ogilvie for the able and instructive lecture which has so interested us to-night."

Lieutenant-Governor Dewdney, in seconding the vote of thanks, declared that when he was Minister of the Interior, Mr. Ogilvie was one of his most valuable officers.

The vote of thanks being tendered by the whole audience rising, the meeting closed.

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